



Weekly Memo



Rule Activity

Notice of Rule Development

To view the draft, if available, and submit comments for the following rule, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) [State Board Rules Under Review](#):

- Rule [6A-3.0171](#), Florida Administrative Code, F.A.C., Responsibilities of School Districts for Student Transportation

Action Items

United States Presidential Scholars Program Nominations

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [United States Presidential Scholars Program nominations](#). Nominations must be submitted by **October 31, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

Events Coming Soon

The Florida School for the Deaf and Blind (FSDB) Disability Awareness Community Open House Live Stream

FSDB will be hosting a student performance event for disability awareness on **October 15, 2025**, at 9:00 a.m. Visit the [FSDB Performance Livestream](#) web page to watch, with performances from the Blind Department thespians, chorus and soloists, followed by the Dance Troupe. The orientation and mobility (O&M) White Cane contest winners will be announced at the end of the event. For questions, contact info@fsdbk12.org.

White Cane Safety Day Webinar

Just as the white cane transformed travel for blind adults in 1945, the innovation of the pediatric belt cane in 2017 has transformed O&M for children with mobility visual impairment or blindness (MVI/B). This webinar will include the results of multiple research studies on more than 800 children with an MVI/B who demonstrated significant improvement in gait, pace and amount of physical activity once they began wearing the belt cane. The webinar will be held on **October 15, 2025**, at 4:00 p.m. Visit the [registration page](#) for more information about the event and to register. For questions, contact Shelly Voelker at shellyv@ufl.edu.

Informational Items

Amendments to Rule 6A-6.0253, F.A.C., Diabetes Management

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [amendments to Rule 6A-6.0253, F.A.C.](#) See the memo for more information.

The Florida Low Vision Initiative (FLVI) Newsletter

FLVI, an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-funded state project, through Florida Supportive Services for Students with Visual Impairments, is accepting referrals for the 2025-26 school year. Low vision services are also available to students with low vision, prekindergarten four-year olds through eighth grade, who receive direct instruction from a teacher of students with visual impairments (TSVI), as documented in the student's individual educational plan (IEP).

FLVI participants:

- Receive a no-cost, comprehensive low vision evaluation;
- Are eligible to receive glasses and a wide variety of portable optical aids, when prescribed for specific low vision needs; and
- Receive training in the use of glasses and portable optical aids.

To request services from FLVI, go to [FLVI Request for Services 2025-26](#). To learn more about the services and instructional support provided by FLVI, visit the [LiveBinders resource platform](#). For questions, contact Kim Roberts at kmroberts@fsu.edu.

Learning Ally Newsletter

Learning Ally wants to celebrate your students for making a habit out of reading. Look for certificates to celebrate your students sent to your email in the next few weeks. Visit the [Learning Ally Florida October Newsletter](#) to see when Dr. Tim Odegard will discuss the new definition of dyslexia in the no-cost Professional Learning Spotlight on Dyslexia Divind Depper series. For questions, contact Dr. Martaluz Pozo at mpozo@learningally.org.

Amended State Board of Education Rule Regarding the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida](#). See the memo for more information.

Tip of the Week

Take Note of Parents' Interest in New Placements

If a parent expresses an interest in a new school or program, preemptively research whether that school or program is appropriate. That way, you will be prepared to discuss it as a team if the parent requests a similar placement at the next IEP team meeting. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

Patricia Bodiford
Bureau Chief